

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
IO-13 OMB-01 CU-04 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-07
ACDA-12 /106 W
-----002553 071007Z /17

R 070816Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1186
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, TH, CH
SUBJECT: THAI PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT CHINA

REF: BANGKOK 33681

1. RE REFTEL, THAI PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK CHAMANAN WILL VISIT THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR SEVEN DAYS BEGINNING ON MARCH 29. THE VISIT WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON MARCH 23, BUT WAS DELAYED SO THAT THE PRIME MINISTER COULD ATTEND THE ROYAL-SPONSORED CREMATION OF GENERAL ARUN THAVATHASIN, THE FORMER COMMANDER OF THE FIRST ARMY DIVISION WHO WAS KILLED DURING THE ABORTIVE COUP ON MARCH 26, 1977.

2. PRC AMBASSADOR CH'AI TSE-MIN IS CURRENTLY IN CHINA. IN A FEB 23 AIRPORT INTERVIEW, THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE WAS RETURNING TO
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CHINA "FOR A MONTH OR SO " IN ORDER TO ATTEND THE 5TH NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS AND TO HELP PREPARE FOR THE KRIANGSAK VISIT.

3. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE MAJOR TOPIC TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT IS THE TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER

PHICHAIRATTAKUN RECENTLY SAID THAT HE HOPES THE PRIME MINISTER WILL CONCLUDE AN ATHLETIC AND CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH CHINA.

4. COMMENT: WHILE IT HAS NOT BEEN STATED PUBLICLY, IT IS LIKELY THAT KRIANGSAK WILL ALSO SEEK TO OBTAIN CHINESE SUPPORT FOR HIS EFFORTS TO ARRIVE AT PEACEFUL RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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